

HISTORIC CHURCHES OF THE UNITED STATES

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

To tell the story of the old churches of the United States is almost like recounting the history of the nation itself, so inseparably are the two linked together. The early pioneers to this continent were missionaries, zealous for the redemption of the souls of the red men of the newly acquired territories of New France or New Spain, or devout colonists eager to find freedom to worship God. The first chapels, churches, and plain little meeting houses, that were built with great difficulty and often at great personal sacrifice, have become valuable milestones on the great road of history. Kings and regicides have worshipped in them; Presidents and slaves have knelt at the same altars; prayers for principalities and republics have ascended from the same congregations; battles have been fought and won over the graveyards and through the very doors of the sanctuaries in border churches, and invading armies have used the floors for stables and the pews for manure.

A bit of ruined tower on an island in the Lower James River is all that is left of America's first Protestant church. This corner stone of the world's greatest nation stands on the spot where John Smith and the good "Master" Hunt placed logs for seats, tacked an old sail overhead for a roof, and instituted the first religious service in English-speaking America. A log church was built as soon as the men had time, and later one made of brick, the ruins of which may be seen to-day.

Soon the congregation scattered out beyond the river banks and pierced the wilderness beyond. The first and was low and unimpressive, and in 1765 the church was removed to Williamsburg. The wind and the rain and the waters from the river came to take tribute of the old church, and by the beginning of the nineteenth century it was a deserted ruin. Acorns that fell in the old graveyard when the timid Princess Pocahontas was a captive in Jamestown have grown to giant trees. One of these has forced its way through a great stone slab, shattering it to bits and raising a portion of it in a crotch of the tree far above the earth. The tombs of the Lees, the Amblers, the Blairs, and the Jacquelines are there, and "Dame Frances Berkeley" sleeps far from her stern old husband, who died of a broken heart in England, scorned by the king he served. The large silver chalice and silver alms basin which Gov. Andrews gave them in 1694 are preserved by the Episcopal Convention of Virginia, while the silver baptismal font has been returned to the heirs of the donors, the Jacquelines.

King's Chapel, Boston, was the first Episcopal church in New England, though over 100 years ago the minister and the whole congregation turned Unitarian. The first building was put up in 1633, and the present one in 1740. The furniture was given by William III and by George III. When the Tory preacher, the Rev. Canon, returned to England at the outbreak of the Revolution, he took the plate back with him, deeming it too sacred for rebel uses. Royal governors sat in a certain high-backed pew, and under the royal arms still on the walls, and when Washington was there as commander-in-chief of the Colonial forces, he, too, sat in this same pew. When the Revolutionary war had closed, the members declared the name "King's Chapel" unsuitable to a republican country, but the name was finally retained when it was suggested that it might be interpreted as referring to the King of Kings and not to the ruler of a country under whose dominion the church was no longer held. A row of pipes from the old organ which Handel himself selected is still in use, and carvings from the front of the organ which Queen Anne gave are preserved among the church's treasures.

The timbers for the San Luis Rey Mission in California were cut from a forest twenty miles from the site of the church, and after being blessed by the priests where they were hewn, were not allowed to touch the ground again until they were placed on the walls. The weary Indians who were made to carry these timbers sometimes rebelled, and at Santa Barbara they were locked fast in a stockade at night to keep them from going back to the happier clime of the savages. The Santa Barbara garden is always closed to women. The priests reserve this for their own private enjoyment, and walk and meditate there undisturbed. Only two women have ever been allowed to enter. These were Princess Louise, daughter of Queen Victoria, who spent a winter in Santa Barbara, and Mrs. McKinley, Dolores Mission, in San Francisco, was founded in 1776, and when a newer edifice was built near by a few years ago, the parishioners refused to use it, and continue to frequent the old adobe house, which the earthquake has kindly spared.

New York's oldest church building is St. Paul's, dating from 1754-66, while Trinity is the oldest and richest organization. The land owned by Trinity was part of the West India Company's farm before the English came to take possession of the island. It then became the "King's farm" and was granted to the church. Much of the land has been given away for charitable purposes, but the church has still enough left to yield an income of \$500,000 a year. The money is used to maintain the church, its six chapels, and its many missions and charities. The graveyard is said to be worth as much money as gold dollars placed side by side and stood up edgewise would cover. It can never be sold, and the dead there reach of busy Wall street can sit forever undisturbed. Alexander Hamilton was buried here after his fatal meeting with Aaron Burr, and his wife was laid by his side fifty years later. A monument to the memory of the patriot soldiers who died on the prison ships during the Revolution is in this churchyard.

New Orleans has a miracle chapel, where the visitors may see stacks of crutches that were made useless by the intercession of the saint. The chapel was built by a priest with his own hands in fulfillment of a vow that if the great scourge of cholera be diverted from his flock he would build a chapel in honor of his patron saint, the good St. Roque. The city was almost devastated, and the plague touched not one member of this flock, and the thankful father erected the quaint edifice stone by stone. It still stands as a lasting monument to his faith. It is in this chapel that young girls go to the saint for husbands, and where the little amulets containing St. Josephs are blessed for the same happy purpose. One of the oldest churches in Louisiana is St. Martin's church, on Bayou Teche. It was a refuge for the exiled Acadians whom the English drove from Canadian shores, and tradition declares that Evangeline lies under an oak in the old burying ground.

St. John's, in Washington, D. C., is in some respects the most famous church in America. Once when a young man applied to Lincoln for a position in the gov-

ernment service, and presented a handful of letters of recommendation, Lincoln said: "You had better keep these. They might, now mind you, I don't say will; but they might, gain you a membership at St. John's." Thus early had this most aristocratic of all America's churches earned its name for exclusiveness. It was built in 1815, and though it has since been remodelled, it still seats only 700. Before the church was consecrated, a committee waited on President Madison and stated that pew No. 28 had been set aside for his use.

Ever since then it has been known as the "President's pew," and St. John's has been known as the "President's church." Although all the Chief Executives since its building have not been members of that faith, most of them have attended it at some time or other. Memorial windows have been placed there to Presidents Madison, Monroe, Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, and Zachary Taylor. "Twelve days before this church while in office." One of the most notable gatherings ever held there was in 1867, at the time of the World's Postal Congress, when the funeral services were held for the young Emperor of Hawaii who had died during the convention. The congregation was made up of people of almost every nationality and race under the sun. Benjamin Latrobe, the architect of the Capitol, designed the church,

When Woman Guides the Plot.

BY HENRY LINSLEY DOOLITTLE.

The unusual is ever the most attractive. From his assortment of morning mail Bower first of all selected the one unbusinesslike envelope and hastily tore it open.

"My dear Jimmy"—he read softly, with rising elation. "On Monday evening next, April the first, I am planning a little heart surprise party in honor of little sister's birthday. It won't be complete without one of her best friends, so please cut everything and come. I should have let you know sooner had I not expected to see you at the club reception last night. Where were you—out with the other girl? Anyway, Monday evening without fail."

"Your sincere friend," "GRACE LOUISE ELSTON." "March 27, 1907." "It wouldn't do to miss Marjorie's birthday—in memory of three years ago, if for no other reason, he meditated.

"Too bad she had to kick up such a fuss over nothing. How was I to blame? She must have wakened up, or I never should have been invited. I wonder—but at that moment the pile of business letters caught his eye reproachfully. Arriving early at the Elston home, he found the apartments ablaze with heat, and the furniture was given by William III and by George III. When the Tory preacher, the Rev. Canon, returned to England at the outbreak of the Revolution, he took the plate back with him, deeming it too sacred for rebel uses. Royal governors sat in a certain high-backed pew, and under the royal arms still on the walls, and when Washington was there as commander-in-chief of the Colonial forces, he, too, sat in this same pew. When the Revolutionary war had closed, the members declared the name "King's Chapel" unsuitable to a republican country, but the name was finally retained when it was suggested that it might be interpreted as referring to the King of Kings and not to the ruler of a country under whose dominion the church was no longer held. A row of pipes from the old organ which Handel himself selected is still in use, and carvings from the front of the organ which Queen Anne gave are preserved among the church's treasures.

The early arrivals had formed into interested groups. More than once Bower thought he heard the mention of some engagement, but upon drawing nearer he was met by a sudden change of subject and what seemed half-startled glances. At last he cornered his hostess. "What does a heart party usually mean?" she parried, with a laugh that jarred strangely on his nerves. "Oh, there's Mr. Stanwood! I must see that he meets some of the out-of-towners," and she was gone.

Just then Marjorie entered. "Little sister," she said, and looked up, looking very much grown up to-night. Bower was among the first to press forward with congratulations. "How many is it this time?" he quizzed in well-feigned ignorance. "Let's see, three years ago it was nineteen; this time you throw double two—sign of good luck."

She smiled in some embarrassment. "You have too good a memory, Jim. Can't you ever forget? After the teens, a girl isn't so proud of her age."

He made way for the others, with a tingling sensation of loss. After all, he had been so much her fault three years ago? At the other side of the room he caught sight of Miss Sherwood beckoning to him with parted lips. Mechanically he crossed to her side.

"I was never so stumped in my life," confided his companion. "You are an old friend of the family, Mr. Bower—did Miss Elston tell you before to-night?"

"And about you much in the dark as any one," he evaded.

"Did you see the ring?" she rattled on. "It's a perfect beauty!"

Jim smiled to hide his suspicion. Those best wishes—were they as innocently attached to her birthday as he had supposed? He tried to recall her new friends, but none seemed to fit the case.

"Well, if you can't tell me any more about the matter than that, I guess I'll hunt up some one who can," Miss Sherwood disappeared with a parting shot: "I always supposed you were the right bower in that game."

"The head table is up there," she commented. "And the booby at the other end. As there are two people short, the poorest couple at the last table will have to drop out each time until the next change. You'll find a consolation copy corner in the conservatory."

Starting at the third table, Jim slowly advanced to the head, and then as suddenly dropped to the other end. Marjorie was already there.

"Unlucky in cards—" she laughed. "You might have given a fellow a little warning," he grieved, "sort of chance to renew his option." But the sound of the bell and the conversation of the others for the next ten minutes he played atrociously, now heaping hearts upon her score, now adding needlessly to his own. The other, exchanged knowing glances. He couldn't have made a plain bid for the coxy corner. Yet Marjorie seemed oblivious.

"Now tell me all about it," began Jim a few minutes later.

"There isn't so much to tell," she began slowly at last. "Clinton is a distant cousin of mine. He cares for me and I care for him. He's well-off and generous—and good looking." She weighed each winning quality with a deliberation that hurt. "And, above all, he knows his own mind. Why shouldn't I love him?" she demanded, turning suddenly to her companion.

"Oh, don't mind me to-night," he deprecated. "It's just this: I can't seem to realize what it all means to me. We did have such good times once, Marjorie."

She started at the sound of her nickname, so dearly loved of old. "We were children then," he reflected.

"And you promised to give me first chance if any one else came along," he pursued, drawing closer.

"Did I, really? How foolish of me,"

and it has gathered under its roof more representative people than any other house of worship in America.

The bells of old St. Michael's in Charleston, S. C., have had a widely traveled life and a checkered career. It is said this church was designed by Gibbs, architect of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London. When it was finished, February 1, 1781, the clock in the tower and the bells in the tall steeple had been brought at great expense from England. In 1782 Maj. Fraile, a British officer, took the bells away, and despite the pleadings of the Charleston people, the English government would not restore them. However, they were sold in England and bought by a man who returned them to St. Michael's. When the civil war broke out the vestry had the bells taken from their support home and carried inland to Columbia for safety. In doing this they had not reckoned on Sherman, and when he burned Columbia the bells were rendered useless, and two of them were stolen. In 1868 the remaining ones were sent again to England to be recast by the successors of the firm that had made them, and in 1883 they were rehung.

An old story of St. Michael's tells of a negro slave who once saved the sacred structure from burning. A building was on fire near by, there was no fire-fighting paraphernalia that could throw water any distance, and when a brand was blown high on the steeple of St. Michael's the people were in distress, for they knew it meant the destruction of their beloved church. Then a negro slave sprang from a cabin near by, made his way through the crowd, climbed the steeple, and threw the brand far out in the street. He managed to reach the ground in safety, and his master set him free as a reward for his brave act.

To-morrow—A continuance of Historic Churches in the United States.

REBELS TAKE TOWN

American Legation Reports Fall of Trujillo.

NAVY PROBABLY TOOK PART

Nicaraguan Ships Also Threaten Celba and Porto Cortes—State Department Asked for War Vessels to Protect American Interests on the Coast—Two Gunboats Available.

The State Department has received the following dispatch from Mr. Brown, in charge of the American Legation at Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras: "Trujillo in possession of revolutionists, and north coast exposed to attack."

This news, coming from Honduran sources, is considered conclusive. It was reported yesterday that Trujillo was being attacked from the sea by Nicaraguan war ships. These evidently co-operated with revolutionists on land.

Americans Ask for War Ships. Philip Rider, secretary of the American Legation to Honduras, has telegraphed the State Department asking that an American war ship be sent to Celba, a port on the north coast of Honduras, which is threatened with attack from the sea by the Nicaraguan naval force, which yesterday was reported at Trujillo.

No further news has been received at the State Department of the attack on Trujillo. This country now has two gunboats on the Caribbean side, the gunboats Paducah and Marietta. One of them will probably be sent immediately to Celba, where there are many American interests.

It appears that the Nicaraguan naval expedition, consisting of three steamers, is patrolling the north coast of Honduras, threatening the towns of Celba and Porto Cortes.

GRAPHOPHONE COMPANY WINS.

United States Circuit Court of Appeals Sustains Its Patent Claims.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals in New York has recently handed down three decisions which are of great interest to the talking-machine trade and very far-reaching in their consequences. The two companies engaged in the manufacture of disc sound records, the American Graphophone Company, makers of Columbia records, and the Victor Talking Machine Company, which manufactures Victor records, have both sought to obtain control of the business under the patents respectively owned by them.

After long litigation, the court, by a unanimous decision, sustained the Graphophone Company's patent and gave it the broad construction, so as to cover all disc records as now made in this country, and in a separate decision has held that the material used in Columbia records does not infringe the Victor Patent.

In the course of the opinion, which was concurred in unanimously, the court, referring to Columbia disc records, said: "The disc produced by the patented process responds to the test of success where others have failed. The patentable novelty of the process of the disc is not only indicated by large sales, but also by the unavailability of the most successful form of disc record; namely, limitation by the manufacturer. In short, it has far surpassed all other methods previously used, that, apparently all disc records are now made by the patented process. In the event of a change in the management or location, the succeeding manager shall call at the health office within five days and make a corresponding entry. Violation of the provisions of the regulation is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$25 for each offense. The regulation, according to Dr. Woodward, is proposed with a view of facilitating the present methods of inspection of these places, and, in his judgment, necessary for public health.

The Victor Company has secured a license under this patent.

DRAPERY FOR NELSON BUST.

Mrs. Roosevelt and Queen Alexandra Promise Flags for Purpose.

The bronze bust of the famous British sailor, Lord Nelson, which has been presented to the United States Naval Academy by King Edward of England, will be draped with silken American and British flags, made, respectively, by Mrs. Roosevelt and Queen Alexandra of England. Arrangements have been made that the flag of the Queen shall be presented to the academy by Mrs. James Bryce, wife of the British Ambassador to this country.

Rev. Edward W. Matthews, formerly a chaplain in the United States navy, but for many years secretary of the British Foreign Sailors' League, of London, has been in the city arranging for the presentation of the flags. Mrs. Roosevelt has already promised Rev. Mr. Matthews that she will make the silken American flag will present it in person, and with her own hands drape the bust with it.

Dr. Matthews will immediately leave for London, where he expects to obtain a similar course for the British flag from Her Majesty Queen Alexandra. The presentation of the flags will probably be either in April or on the anniversary of the tragic death of Lord Nelson on board his flagship Victory during the battle of Trafalgar.

DANGEROUS TASK IN HAND.

Twelve-ton Marble Stones Being Put in New District Building.

The heaviest and largest pieces of marble and the most difficult and dangerous work that is to be done on the new Municipal Building is now in progress. Immense marble pieces weighing from six to twelve tons are now being placed in position on the top of the fourth story. These oblong stones, perhaps a hundred of them, are to form the frieze course, and will encircle the entire building as a foundation for the several stories to be added.

Appearing in the air and handled as if they were mere bags of feathers, the powerful workmen and donkey engines hoist the stones to their respective positions with scarcely any noise and only a few puffs of steam and smoke. The frieze-course work covers the immense pillars which will give the new building such a commanding appearance. The work of laying these hundreds of tons of marble will be finished next week.

Lectures on Materlinck. Miss M. Eleanor Ford will give a lecture on "Materlinck, the Practical Mystic" at 2:30 p. m., Saturday, March 23, in the Reading Room, for the Blind, Library of Congress.

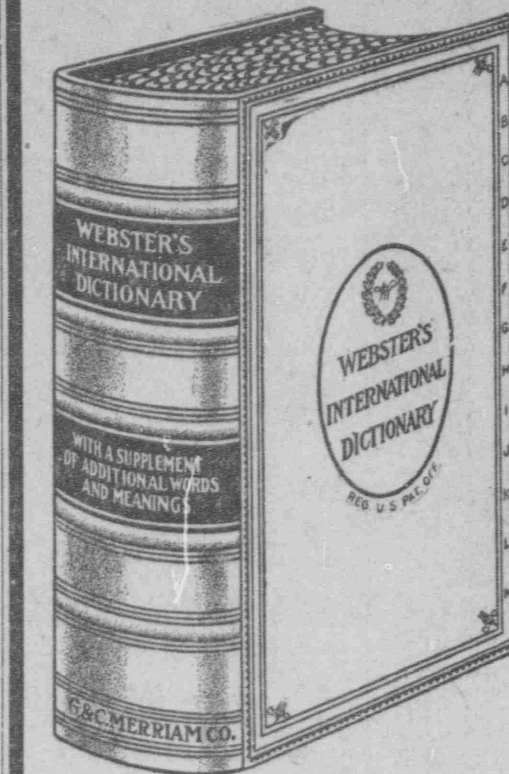
Ready to Ratify Treaty. Advice have been received at the State Department which indicate that the Dominican Congress will ratify the treaty between that country and the United States within a very few days.

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WOULD REGISTER CATERERS

Dr. Woodward Suggests Sweeping Regulation for District.

Wants Every Provision Store, Restaurant, and Soda Fountain Put on Record in His Office.

As a measure of public health, Dr. W. C. Woodward, health officer of the District, has recommended the promulgation by the Commissioners of a regulation requiring the registration in the health office of every place in the District where food or beverage is manufactured, sold, or stored.

The regulation, which will go into effect July 1, was yesterday referred to the corporation counsel for consideration and report as to whether it is in proper form.

It is provided that the managers of such places shall register in a book to be kept in the health office. In the event of a change in the manager or location, the succeeding manager shall call at the health office within five days and make a corresponding entry. Violation of the provisions of the regulation is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$25 for each offense. The regulation, according to Dr. Woodward, is proposed with a view of facilitating the present methods of inspection of these places, and, in his judgment, necessary for public health.

COMING Y. M. C. A. EVENTS.

Jack Smith to Give Chalk Talk at Popular Entertainment.

In the popular entertainment programme this evening Jack Smith, of the Washington Herald, will give a chalk talk, and the Nordica Mandolin and Guitar Club will render several numbers. Miss E. Lee Moore will be the mandolin soloist of the evening.

Dr. James C. Fernald resumes his lectures on English prose this evening at 7 o'clock, his topic being "Two Epoch-making Writers—Addison and Irving."

The Thursday afternoon lecture deals with "English synonyms." A special class in public speaking and debate is to be opened shortly as a part of the spring courses of association institute. A keen interest in public speaking has been aroused this winter through the Institute Debating Club and English training is being met in the class announced.

Clarence J. Hicks, of New York City, associate general secretary of the international committee of the Y. M. C. A., is the guest of Secretary Harbo of the Washington association, to-day on matters pertaining to the coming international Y. M. C. A. convention, which meets in Washington next November.

The Fort Myer branch is laying itself out on the exhibition next Friday afternoon at the fort. Branch Secretary Arthur Lewis Smith declares that no exhibit of horsemanship and soldierly daring has ever been given on so large a scale as this one promises to be. The Thirtieth Cavalry Band will furnish the music for the occasion.

One hundred and seven new members were received by the central department of the Y. M. C. A. during the first sixteen days of March. The membership committee is evidently doing some effective hustling.

New Clocks at Transfer Point.

The handsome new clocks which are being installed by Seltzer for the United States Savings Bank, at Fourteenth and U streets, will prove a great convenience to those transferring at this point. These immense timepieces are said to be nicely adjusted and can be relied upon to give correct time.

Ready to Ratify Treaty.

Advice have been received at the State Department which indicate that the Dominican Congress will ratify the treaty between that country and the United States within a very few days.

WINTER RESORTS.

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